

# Stamp Collecting Merit Badge



Pete Metzloff

[pmetzloff@gmail.com](mailto:pmetzloff@gmail.com)

Aug 2018 (v. 6), based on experiences from Jambo 2017

Special thanks to Aimee Devine who prepared a similar PDF Merit Badge Workshop presentation.

# Why Collect Postage Stamps?

- Its fun! This MB will give you just a taste of the hobby.
- Stamp collecting is the world's most popular hobby.
- Very space saving.
- Can be affordable for youth.
- Teaches history, geography.
- A hobby that can stay with you for the rest of your life.



# Requirements for the Badge \*

- 1 Describe how stamp collecting will help you understand people, places, geography, as well as a little bit of the history and growth of the US Postal Service.
- 2 Discuss Topical Collections (this is the most popular collection type for this Merit Badge).
- 3 Understand different stamp types (terminology) and SHOW examples.

\* paraphrased

# Requirements, continued

- 4 Use a catalog. Understand stamp condition and catalog values.
- 5 Demonstrate stamp tools: tongs, hinges and mounts, soaking, magnifiers, perforation gauge, watermarks.
- 6 Show and discuss stamp preservation and mounting techniques (hinges & plastic) for stamps, covers and albums.



# Requirements, continued

- 7 Design a stamp or cachet. Prepare a special stamp & clipping or an illustration display. Visit a show. (Do two of six possible tasks).
- 8 Make a collection of any one of five alternatives. Most common collections are a 75 stamp topical collection or a 100 stamp country collection. You can also mount 50 stamps on a map of the world.

# Requirement 1

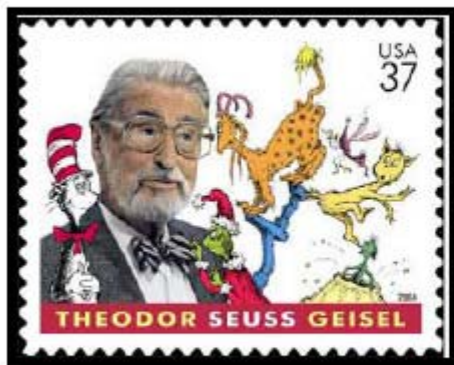
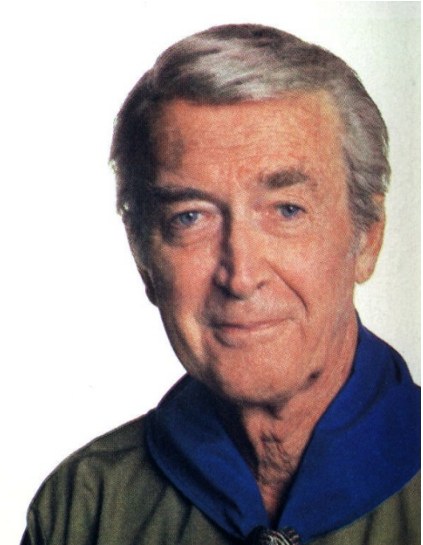
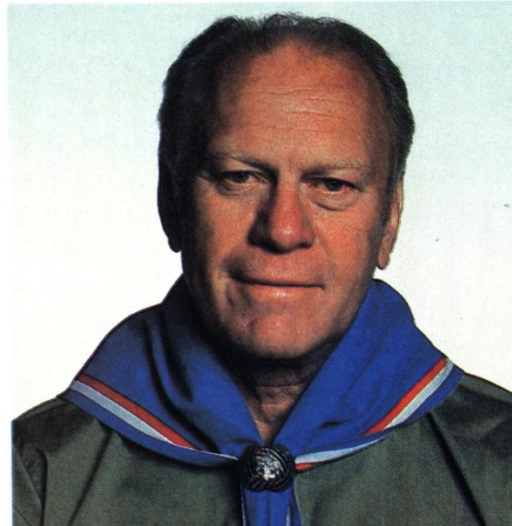
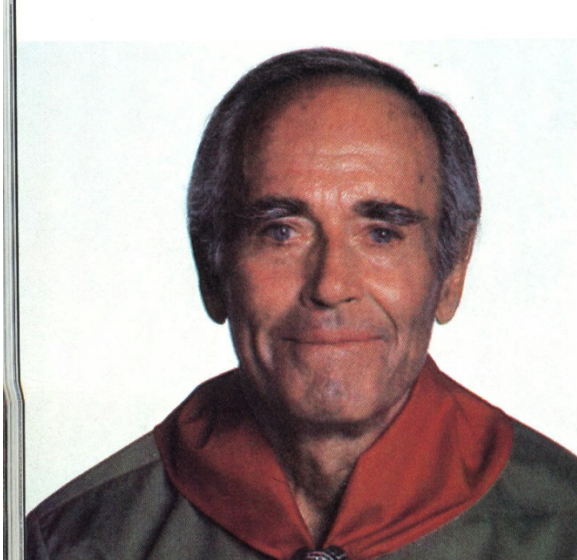
- a. Learning about people, places, organizations, history and geography
  - a. Postal history
  - b. Transporting the mail
  - c. Differences in foreign mail service

# 1a Discover the World Through Stamps

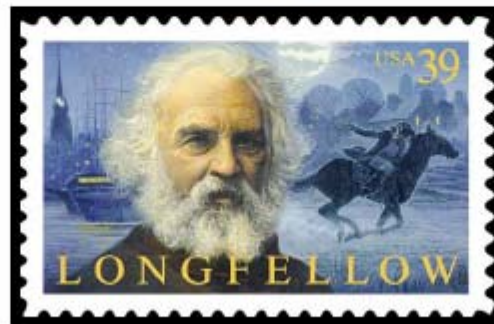




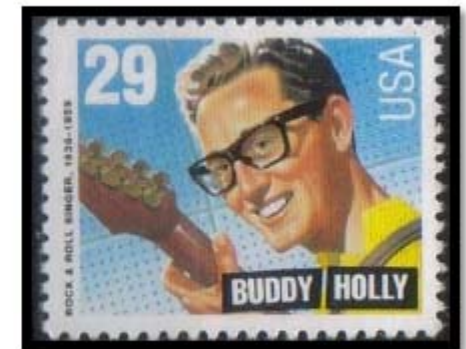
# Learn about PEOPLE



**Authors**

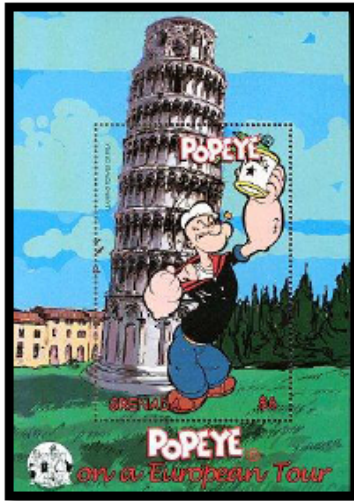


**Poets**



**Entertainers**

# Learn about PLACES



Foreign  
countries



Underwater



Churches



Monuments



Mountains



Forests



Beaches



# Learn about ORGANIZATIONS

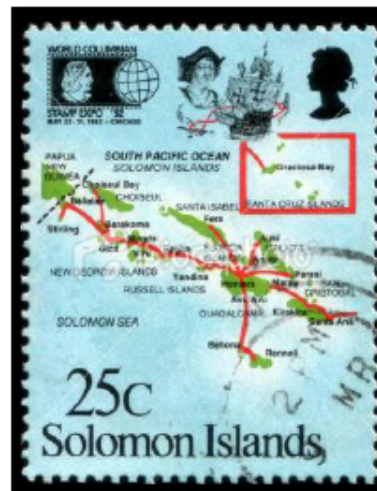


# Learn about HISTORY





# Learn about GEOGRAPHY

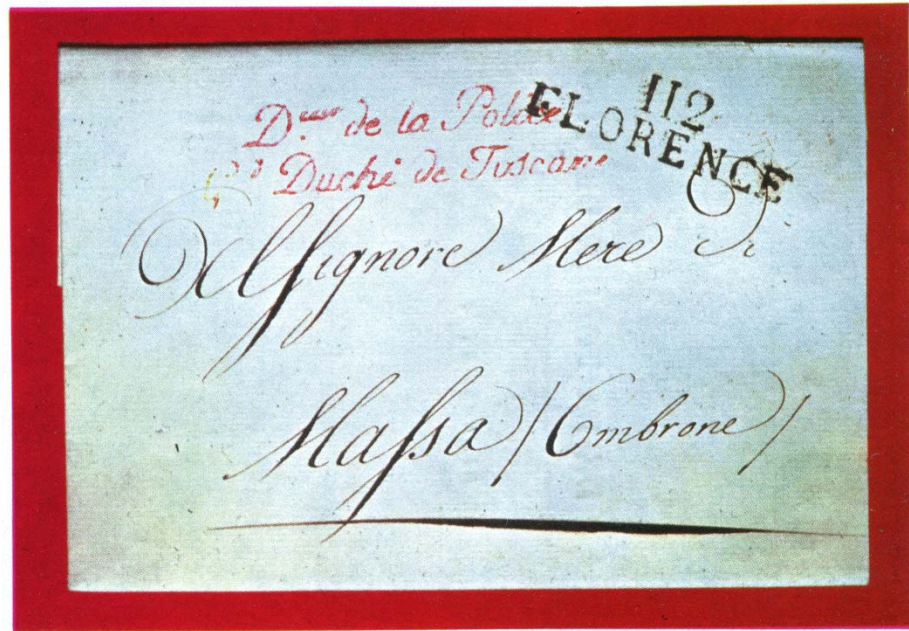




# 1b Postal History

- Pre 1639 – bags of letters brought by sea captains were left on tables in taverns and coffee houses.
- 1639 – first US postal service established at the Fairbanks Tavern in Boston.
- 1673 – Monthly delivery between New York and Boston. Took two weeks.
- 1737 – British appoint Benjamin Franklin as Postmaster of Philadelphia.

*A typical letter before adhesive stamps. This is from Florence to the Grand Duchy of Tuscany.*



# 1b Postal History, cont.

- 1775 – Franklin becomes Postmaster General of the US.
- 1792 – Congress set postal rates based on how far a letter traveled.
- 1794 – The first letter carriers didn't earn any salary from the post office. They collected 2 cents from the recipient for each piece of mail delivered.
- 1840 Great Britain issues the first postage stamp.



Note no country name!



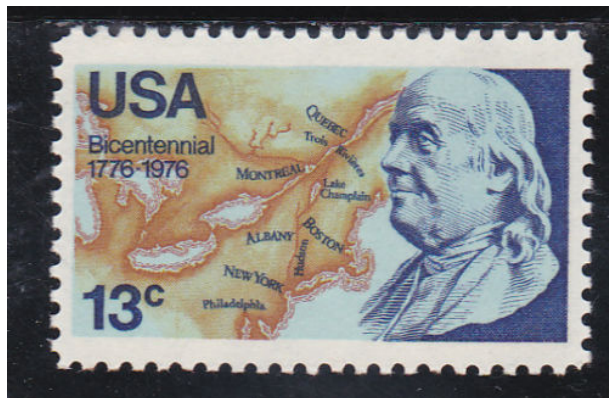
# 1b History of the USPS



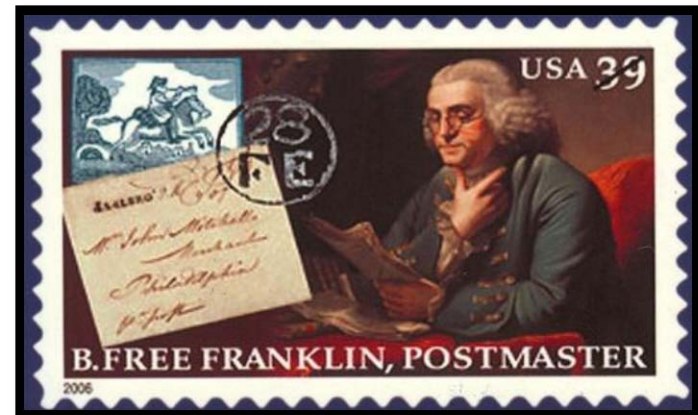
Scott #1



Scott #2



- Founded 1775 by Ben Franklin, it's the oldest department of the government.
- First US stamp was in 1847.
- Handles about 200 billion pieces of mail annually.
- 700,000 employees.





# 1893 - First US Commemoratives



# 1b US Postal History, cont.

- 1896 – Rural Free Delivery (RFD) began.  
Mail was brought directly to the homes of farmers and other people living in the country. Before this, it had to be picked up in town.
- 1963 – ZIP Codes were first used.  
ZIP stands for:  
**Zone Improvement Plan**  
These numbers help move mail more efficiently.





# 1b Postal History, cont.



- 1874 Universal Postal Union – a forerunner of the United Nations, facilitated international mail.



- 1974 First self-adhesive stamp – glue problems!



- 2007 forever stamps – avoids need for small denomination “make up” stamps.

# 1c. Transporting the Mail



*The Pony Express lasted only 18 months (until October 1861) due to the expansion of telegraph service.*



## 1c. Transporting the Mail





# Airmail



- US airmail services started in 1918 as a way to utilize WWI planes and pilots.
- In 2007, it was essentially incorporated into domestic rates. It still applies to international mail.

*We will talk about the famous “Inverted Jenny” later, under Errors (requirement 7).*

# 1d Some Differences with Foreign Post Offices

- It used to be that only some foreign countries printed stamps with living people on them. The United States' policy was that no one could be on a stamp unless he had been dead for at least 5 years (presidents were the exception- first birth anniversary after death). As of 2011, the USPS has decided to put living people on stamps.
- Some foreign post offices are used as banks, for collecting taxes, or giving vaccinations.
- Some countries don't deliver mail. It must be picked up at the post office.



# Requirement 2





# Types of Collections

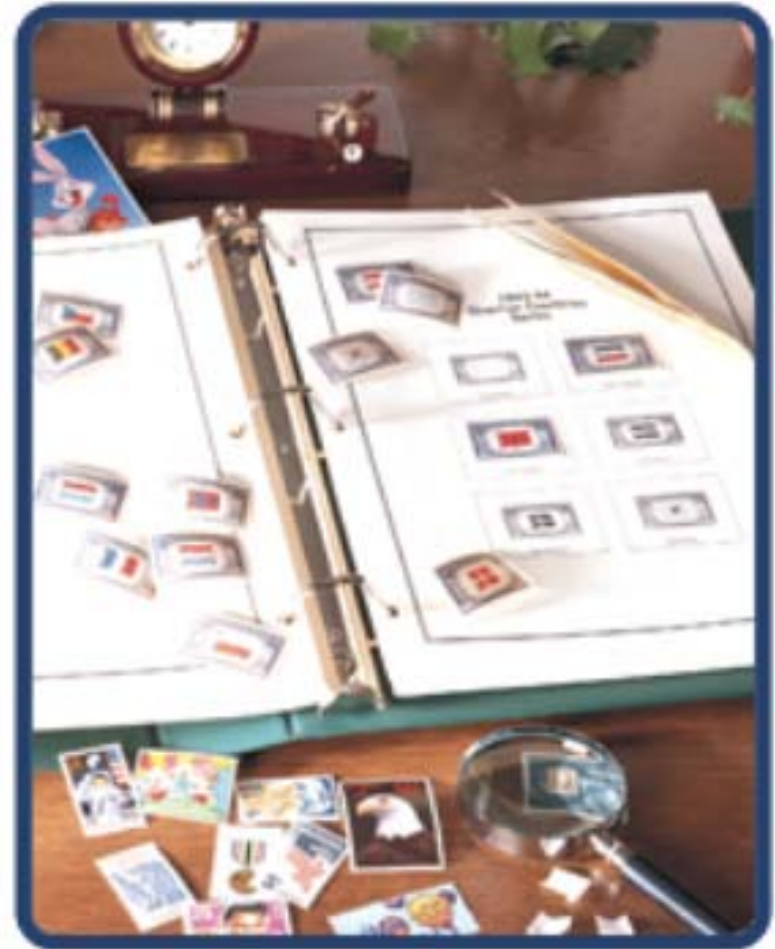
- World-Wide Stamps • Country Collections



World wide collections used to be quite common, but today they are rather challenging. An affordable world stamp album will have many rare/expensive stamps not pictured. Serious collectors use a loose-leave notebook or album, so new pages can be added.

# Country Collection

- You can learn many things (language, history, culture) about a country by looking at its stamps.
- You could collect for certain years, such as 1900 – 2000 (the old ones are expensive).

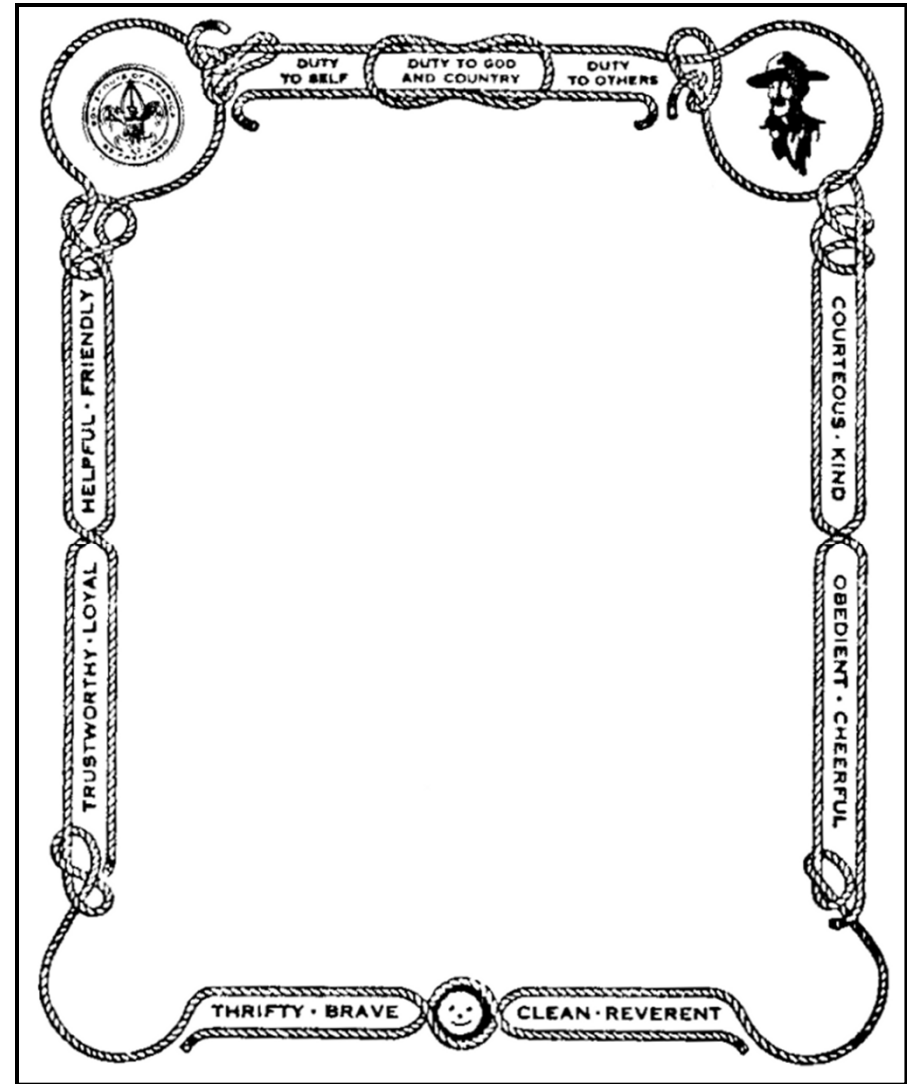


# Examples of Topical Collection

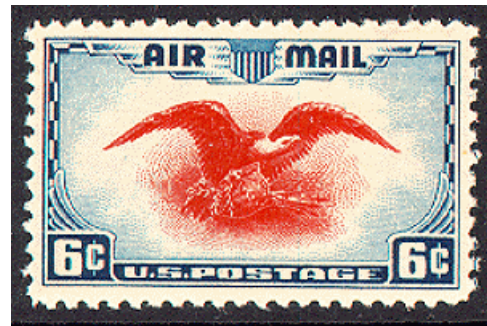
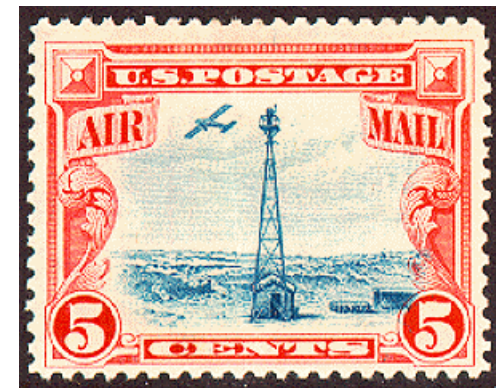
- Airplanes or ships
- Animals
  - Fish, dogs or cats
  - Horses, birds, etc.
- Art, cartoons
- Buildings
- Cars
- Circus
- Christmas
- Christianity or religion
- Eagles
- Farming
- Famous people or places
- Flags
- The 1950's, 1960's, etc.
- Presidents, kings & queens
- Industry
- Military, WWII
- Music
- Outdoors
- Patriotic
- Scouts
- Sports or Olympics
- Triangle stamps
- Trains

# Topical Collections

- You normally arrange a topical collection in any way that pleases you.
- A simple notebook with plastic sheet protectors, graph paper, or downloaded border sheets can add a lot to the visual attractiveness of your collection.
- The next few slides are examples of topicals.



# Airplanes / Airmail





# Animals

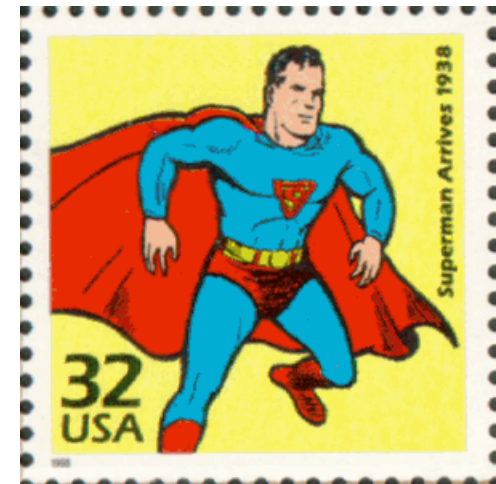
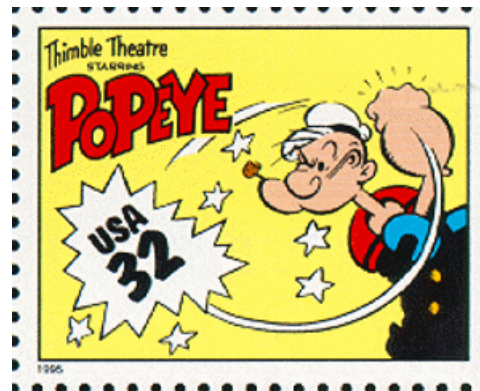


# Cars





# Art / Cartoons



# Christmas / Religion





# Eagles

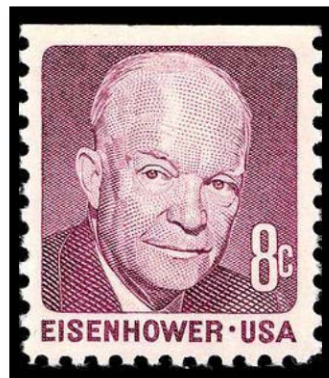


# Flags



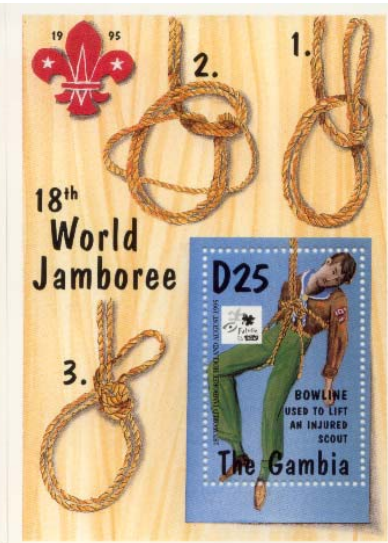
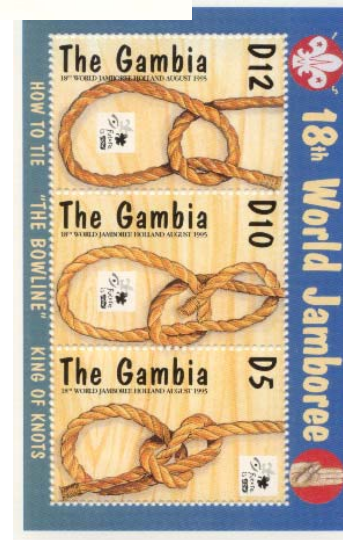


# Presidents



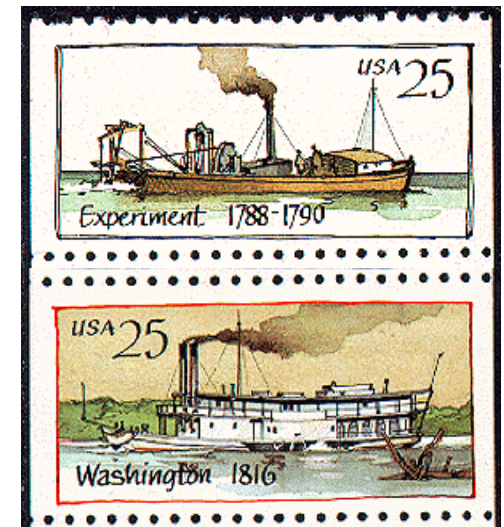


# Scouts





# Ships

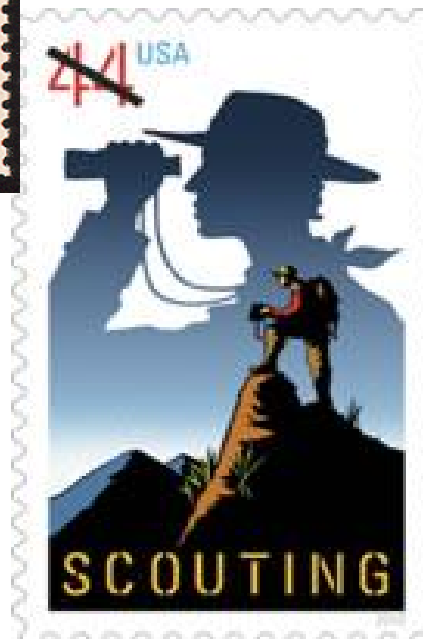
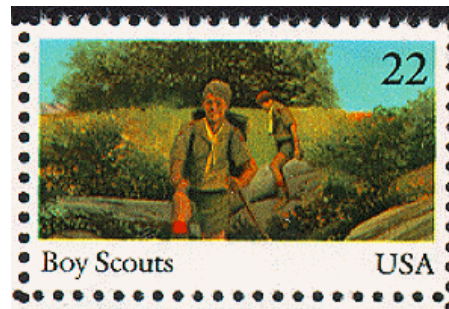


# Sports / Olympics





# A complete Topical Collection - All scouting stamps issued by USA:



# Requirement 3

1. *Four common characteristics of all stamps.*
2. *Some different ways the P.O. packages and sells postal material.*
3. *Some categories of stamps that provide a special service or are less common, and therefore of interest to collectors.*
4. *Other ways to collect stamps – we hope you will continue collecting!*
5. *Errors.*

*Through this requirement, you will learn some Stamp Terminology.*



# Stamp Terminology

- Perforated
- Imperforate
- Self-adhesive
- Water activated
- Mint or used
- Commemorative or regular issue
- Souvenir sheets
- Booklet or coil
- Envelope
- Post Cards
- Postal stationary
- Semi-postal (“charity”)
- Rate make-up stamps
- Surcharges
- Overprints
- Airmail
- Postage due
- Special delivery
- Revenue stamps
- Cinderellas



# Stamp Terminology, cont.

## Types of collections:

- Full sheets
- Meter mail
- Block of 4 & plate blocks
- On cover / cachet
- First day of issue
- Fancy cancels
- Postmarks
- Errors
- Freaks

A stamp collector is called a “philatelist” – a combination of two Greek words, being: philo (an attraction) and ateleia (being exempt from a duty or tax, as a stamp shows that the letter delivery fee has been paid).

# 1. Four Characteristics of All Stamps

# Perforate vs. Imperforate





Pop Quiz: Which are Imperforated?

## Perforated or Imperforated?



Answer

Pop Quiz: Which are Imperforated?

## Perforated or Imperforated?





# Modern Self-Adhesive or older Water Activated (*“lick and stick”*)

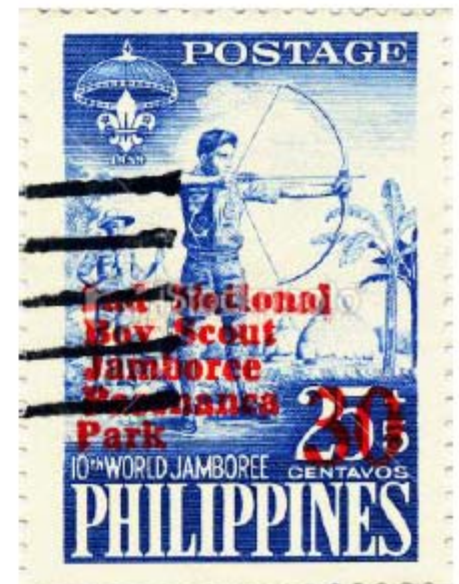




# Unused (Mint) or Used (Cancelled)



## Pop Quiz: Mint or Used?





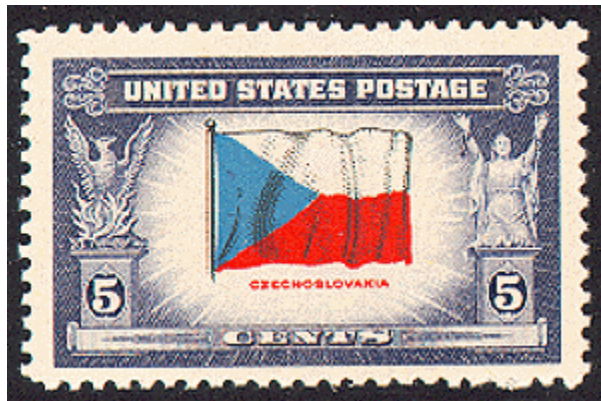
Answer

Pop Quiz: Mint or Used?

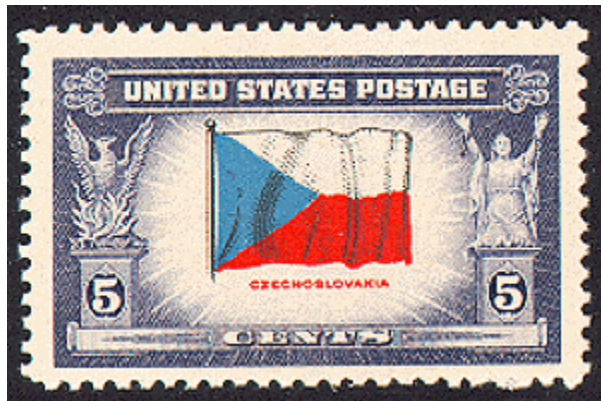




# Commemorative or Regular Issue (“Definitive”)



# Commemoratives are ...



Stamps that honor anniversaries, important people, or special events.

- Sometimes issued in sets of stamps
- Larger than definitives
- Printed in smaller quantities

# Definitives are ...

Regular issues of postage stamps, usually sold over long periods of time.

- No special purpose for the stamp except to pay postage
- Smaller stamps
- Often printed in very high quantity - billions





## Pop Quiz: Commemorative or Regular Issue?



Answer

## Pop Quiz: Commemorative or Regular Issue?

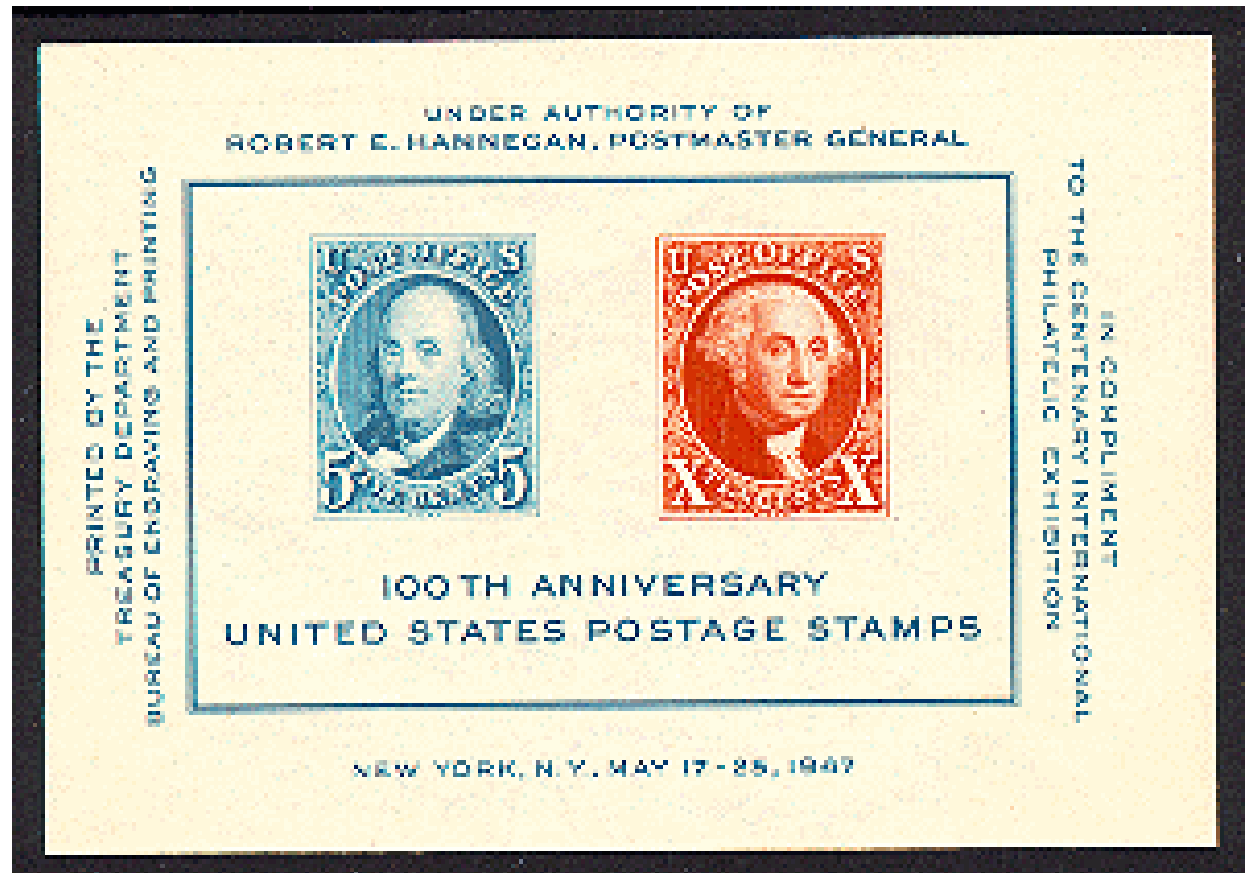


## 2. Other Types of Stamps or Postal Material

*(Or, six ways the PO sells things.)*

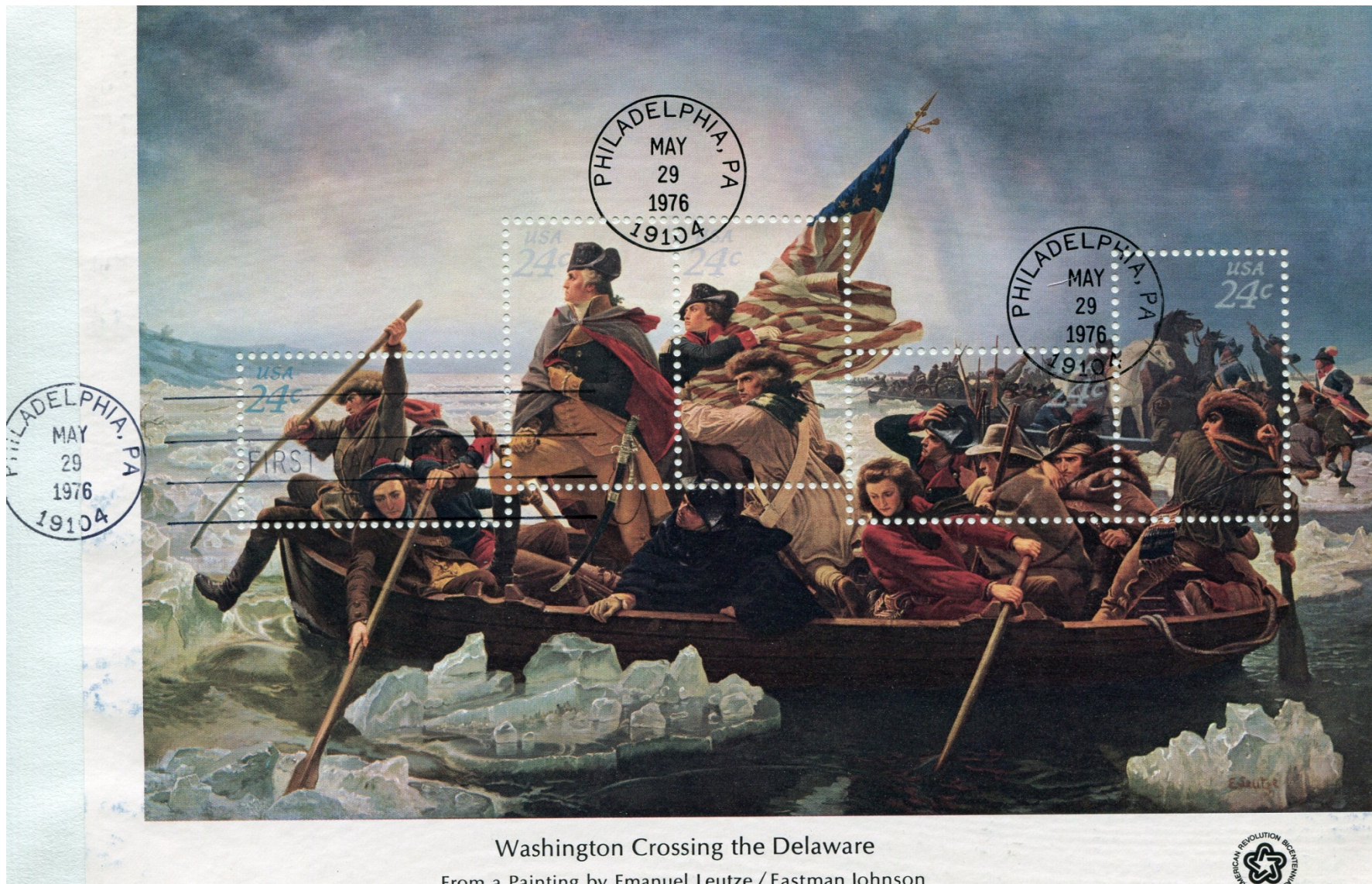


# Souvenir Sheets





# Example with Multi-Color Printing



Washington Crossing the Delaware

From a Painting by Emanuel Leutze / Eastman Johnson





# Booklet Stamps



Perforations missing  
from 1 side



Perforations missing from  
1 side



Perforations missing from 2 sides



Perforations missing from 3 sides



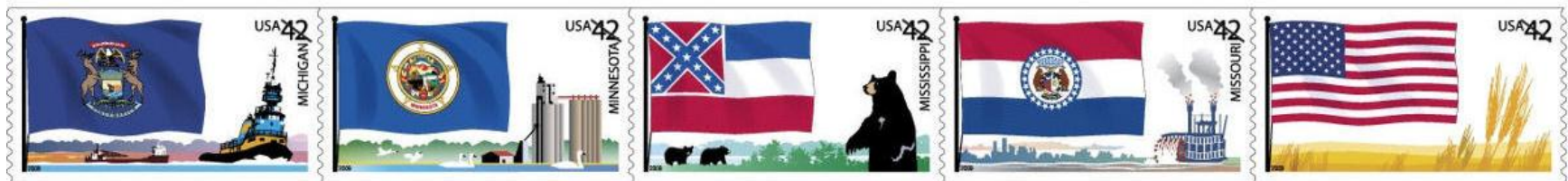
Perforations missing  
from 4 sides

May not have perforations on  
1, 2, 3, or all 4 sides.





# Coil Stamps

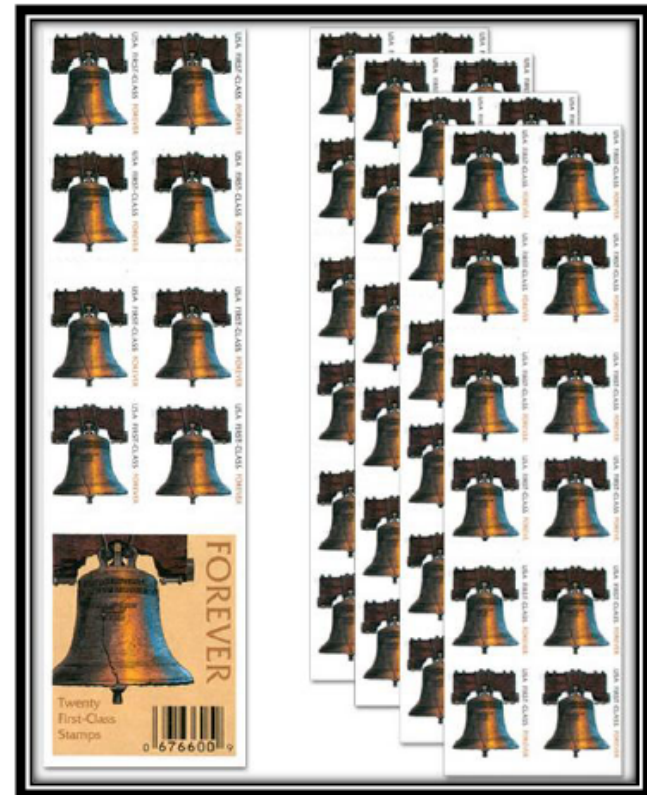


Stamps issued in rolls (one stamp wide) for use in dispensers or vending machines.

- Can be horizontal or vertical.

- Have perforations on two opposite sides and no perforations on the other two opposite sides.

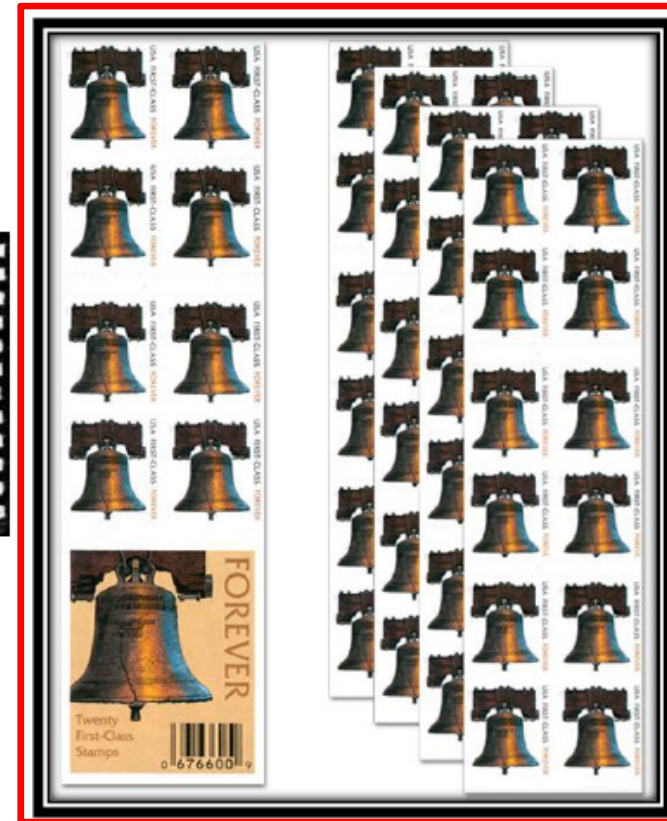
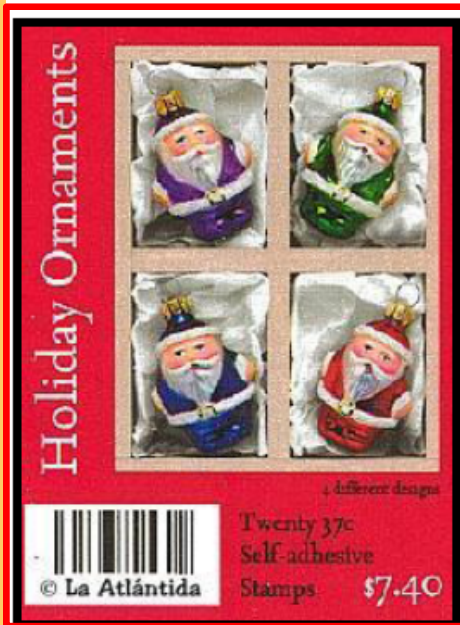
# Coil or Booklet Stamps???





Answer

# Coil or Booklet Stamps???



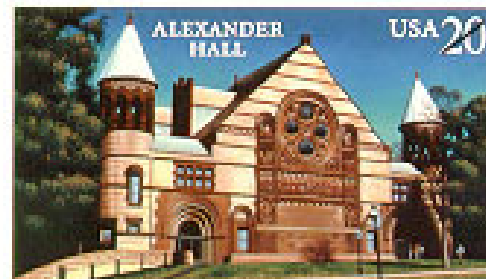


# Envelopes



Older envelopes were collected by keeping only the “cut square” corner. You can tell by observing the embossed nature of the image.

# Post Cards



PRINCETON UNIVERSITY • 250TH ANNIVERSARY



# Post Cards, continued



# Postal Stationary



A letter sheet made of a single piece of lightweight paper with gummed flaps, normally used for international airmail. The outside resembles an envelope on which the stamp is printed.

# 3. Subcategories of Stamps

(These are less common and  
therefore potentially scarce).



# Semi-Postal (“Charity”) Stamps



Sold for \$.48, of which \$.11 went to disaster relief.

# Rate Increase (Alphabet) Stamps



*Two problems: how to have new stamps available for a rate increase and what to do with the unsold inventory at the old rates?*

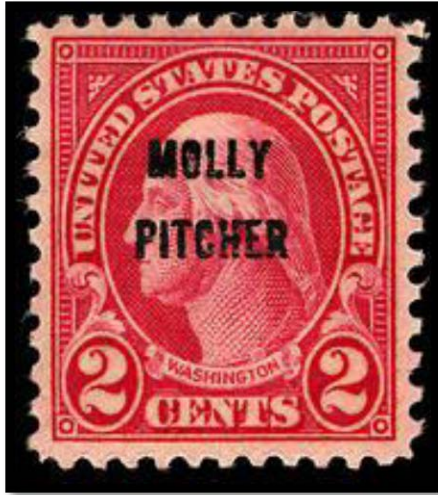
# Surcharge Stamps



A stamp whose value has been changed by overprinting. Often done to use up existing supplies stamps. Can sometimes destroy the esthetics of a commemorate stamp.



# Overprint Stamps



Additional printing on a stamp that was not part of the original design. The purpose of the stamp is changed, but not its value.

- War tax
- A country becomes independent
- Royalty
- Olympics
- Commemorate an event or person



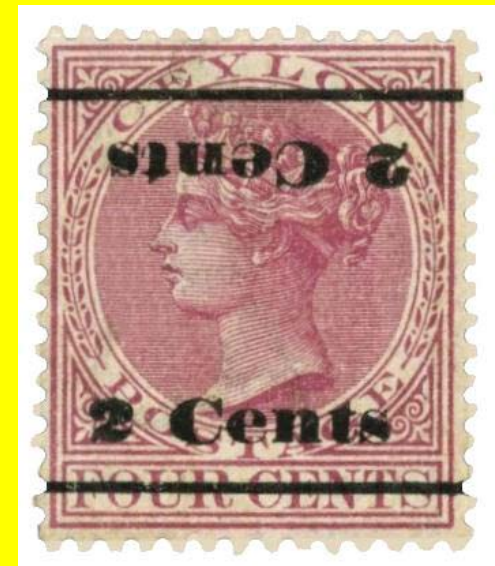
# Overprint Stamps, continued



Overprints may change the nationality of a stamp.



## Pop Quiz: Overprint or Surcharge?



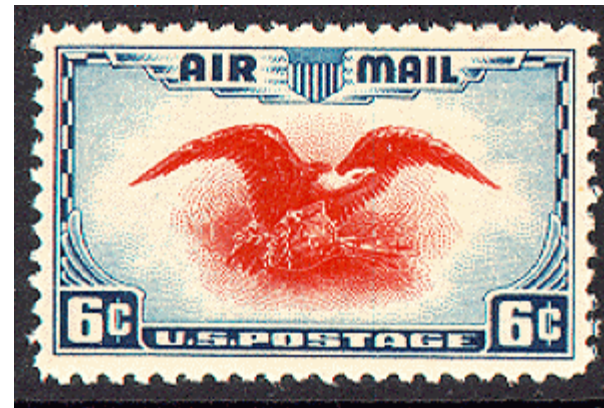


Answer

Pop Quiz: Overprint or Surcharge?



# Airmail Stamps



1911 – First experimental airmail delivery. Regular air postal service began in 1918.





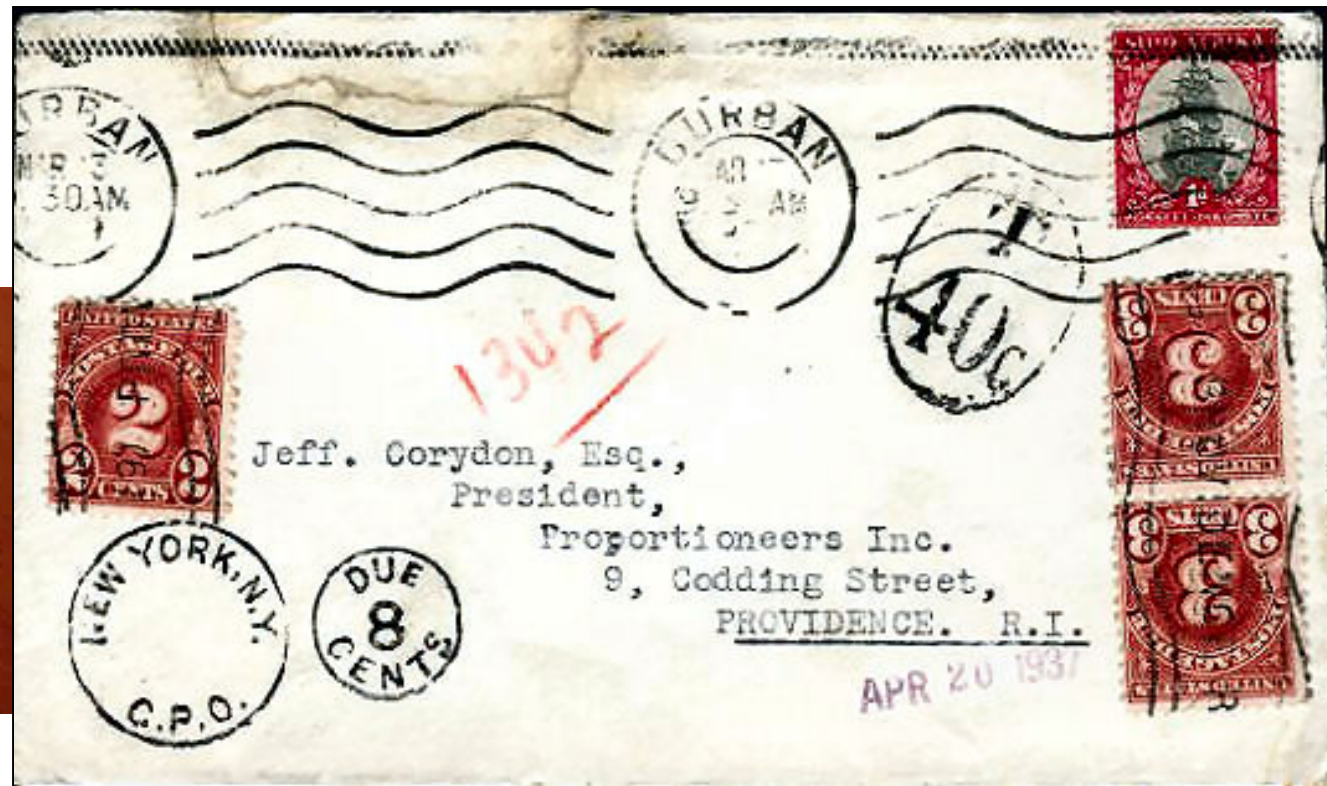
# Special Delivery Stamps



“Speedy” service was often combined with airmail service.



# Postage Due Stamps



# Revenue (Tax) Stamps





# Cinderella Stamps

(a.k.a. Fakes, Stickers, Labels)





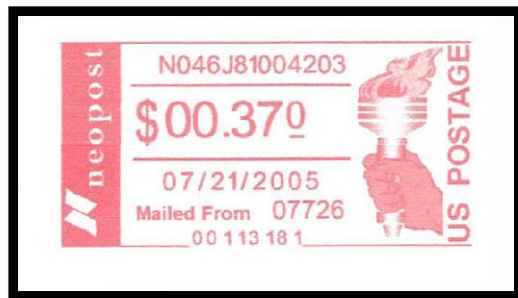
## 4. Other Types of Collections

# Sheet Collections

Some people collect the entire sheet – gets expensive!



# Meter Mail





# Block of 4, Plate Blocks

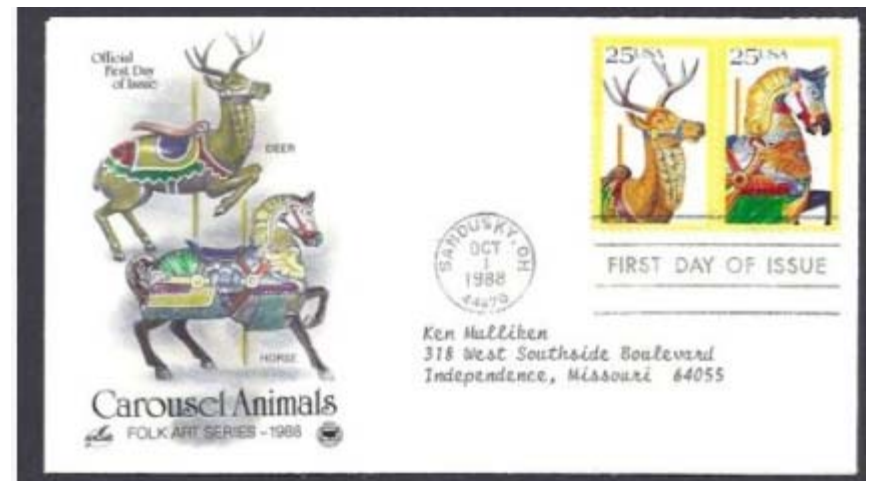
- A block of 4, 8, 10, 12, or 20 stamps with a plate number in the corner
- Plate number is used to track stamps and printing plates used
- A single stamp with a plate number is called **Plate Number Single**
- Booklets have plate numbers in the selvage



# Covers / Cachet



# First Day of Issue Covers



New stamps are often issued at an event or location associated with it. A special postmark on that day makes that particular cover more collectible, as the stamp is, for that first day, only available at that location.



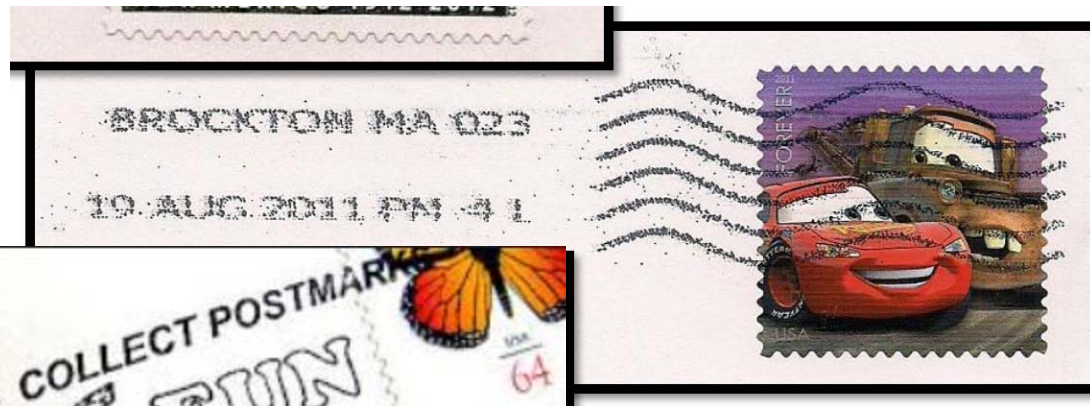
# Fancy Cancellers



An example of the stamping device used to cancel mail before machinery and bar code were available.



# Cancellation vs. Postmarks



This stamp is a  
“pre-cancel.”



# 5. Errors



# Errors



BY

EDGAR SANDOVAL

[FOLLOW](#)

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS  
Tuesday, May 31, 2016, 3:16  
PM

A one-in-a-million stamp sold for more than a million dollars at an auction Tuesday.

The Inverted Jenny — a rare stamp that was printed with an accidental image of a plane upside down — was nabbed by a private buyer for \$1,175,000.

The fast-paced auction at the Jacob Javitz Center on Midtown Manhattan's far west side was over in less than seven minutes.

The lucky winner will actually pay \$1.3 million when all the fees are added in, said Scott Trepel, president of Robert A. Siegel Auction Galleries.



# A 2014 Intentional Error

## WANTED TO BUY

THE NEW \$2 JENNY RIGHT-SIDE-UP ERROR

**Paying \$25,000 per sheet**



**TOP PRICE PAID**  
CALL US TODAY: 908-548-8088

## WE ALSO NEED U.S. & FOREIGN

COLLECTIONS  
ACCUMULATIONS  
DEALER'S STOCK  
SINGLE ITEMS IN  
LARGE QUANTITIES

**We will travel for large lots.**

Send #10 SASE for Israel, Russia,  
Vatican and U.S. Buy & Sell lists.

**Paying top prices for  
coins and bank notes**

TRUSTED FOR OVER 50 YEARS  
ESTABLISHED IN 1957

Call us today:  
908-548-8088

Top Prices Paid



**IDEAL**  
STAMP  
COMPANY,  
INC.

*Sam Malamud*



161 Helen Street  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
PH: 1-908-548-8088  
Fax: 1-908-833-7379  
Email: [info@idealny.com](mailto:info@idealny.com)

*By Appointment only:*  
115 Broadway, Suite 302  
New York, NY 10006  
PH: 1-212-952-9700



# Jenny Invert recovered from McCoy block returned to APRL at World Stamp Show-NY 2016

June 03, 2016 10:02 AM



Donald Sundman of Mystic Stamp Co., left, presents an oversized check for \$50,000 to Keelin O'Neill of Northern Ireland, who had inherited the recovered McCoy Jenny Invert stamp from his grandfather. In 2014, Mystic had offered a reward of \$50,000 each for the recovery of the remaining two Inverted Jenny stamps from the McCoy block of four.

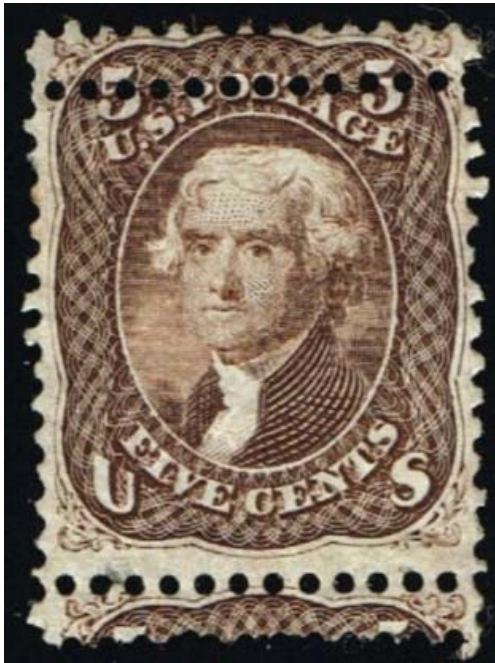


# Errors, continued



The image was actually of somebody else.

# Freaks



Printing errors of any type that get out into circulation. Less serious but overall much more common than “errors.” These examples are each worth less than \$10 each.



# Hard to Identify Stamps

- Local language country name may not correspond to English.
- Different alphabet, e.g. Cyrillic or Chinese.
- Currency might narrow the search.
- Stamp identifier lists and books exist >>>>>>>>>>
- It may not be a stamp at all (*i.e.*, a Cinderella).



BOFTGEBIET (overprint): Lithuania.  
BOGACHES or BOGCHAH: Yemen.  
BOHMEN UND MAHREN: Czechoslovakia — Bohemia and Moravia.  
BOLIVAR: Colombia — Bolivar.  
BOLLO POSTALE: San Marino.  
BOSNIEN-HERZEGOVINA: Bosnia and Herzegovina.  
BOYACA: Colombia — Boyaca.  
BRIEFPOST: Germany, under French occupation.  
BRITISH BECHUANALAND: Bechuanaland.  
BRITISH NEW GUINEA: Papua and New Guinea.  
BRITISH NORTH BORNEO: North Borneo.  
BRITISH OCCUPATION (overprint): Batum.  
BRITISH SO. AFRICA COMPANY: Rhodesia.  
BRITISH SOMALILAND: Somaliland Protectorate.  
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS: Virgin Islands.  
BRUXELLES or BRUSSEL: Belgium.  
BUCHANAN: Liberia.  
BUITEN BEZIT (ovrpt.): Dutch Indies.  
BUNDI: India — Bundi.  
BUSSAHIR: India — Bussahir.

## C

c (preceded by numeral of value with Japanese characters): Ryukyu Islands.  
CABO: Nicaragua — Cabo Gracias a Dios.  
CABO JUBI, CABO JUBY: Cape Juby.  
CABO VERDE: Cape Verde.  
CAHATOPHYMB: Bulgaria.  
CALCHI (overprint): Italy — Aegean Islands — Calchi.  
CALIMNO or CALINO (overprint): Italy — Aegean Islands — Calimno.  
CAMBODGE: Cambodia.  
CAMPIONARIA DE TRIPOLI: Tripolitania or Libya.  
CANTON (ovrpt.): France — Offices in China — Canton.  
CARCHI (overprint): Italy — Aegean Islands — Calchi.  
CASO (overprint): Italy — Aegean Islands — Caso.  
CASTELROSSO: Castellorizo.  
CAVALLE: France — Offices in Turkey — Cavalle.  
C C C P: Russia.  
C. or CS. DE PESO: Philippines.  
CECHY A MORAVA: Czechoslovakia — Bohemia and Moravia.  
C.E.F. (overprint) on stamps inscribed "Kamerum": Cameroons under British occupation; on stamps of India: India, military stamps.  
CENTENAIRE ALGERIE: France.  
CENTENAIRE DU GABON: French Equatorial Africa.

CENTESIMI DI CORONA (overprint) in serif letters on stamps of Italy: Austria under Italian occupation; in sans-serif letters on stamps of Italy: Dalmatia.  
CENTIMES (overprint) on stamps of Germany: Germany — Offices in Turkey; on stamps of Austria: Austria — Offices in Crete.  
CENTIMOS (no country name): Spain; (overprint): France — Offices in Morocco.  
CESKO-SLOVENSKO: Czechoslovakia.  
C F A (overprint): Reunion.  
C.G.H.S.: Upper Silesia.  
CH (followed by oriental characters): Korea.  
CHAMBA: India — Chamba.  
CHARKHARI: India — Charkhari.  
CHEMINS DE FER SPOORWEGEN: Belgium.  
CHIFFRE TAX (no country name) on perforated stamps: France; on imperf. stamps: French Colonies.  
CHINA (overprint) on stamps of Hongkong: Great Britain — Offices in China; on stamps of Germany: Germany — Offices in China.  
CHINE: France — Offices in China.  
CHS (handstamp): Upper Silesia.  
CINQUANTENAIRE 24 SEPTEMBRE (overprint): New Caledonia.  
CIRENAICA: Cyrenaica.  
C.M.T. (overprint): Western Ukraine under Romanian occupation.  
CN: Korea.  
COCHIN, COCHIN ANCHAL: India — Cochin.  
CO.CI. (overprint): Yugoslavia — Ljubljana under Italian occupation.  
COLIS POSTAL or POSTAUX (no country name): Belgium.  
COLOMBIA (on stamp showing map of Panama and the words "Anilla Pacifica"): Panama, under Colombian dominion.  
COLONIA DE RIO DE ORO: Rio de Oro.  
COLONIA ERITREA: Eritrea.  
COLONIE (or COLONIALI) ITALIANE: Italian Colonies.  
COLONIES POSTES: French Colonies.  
COMITE FRANCAIS DE LA LIBERATION NATIONALE: French Colonies, general issue.  
COMMISSION DE GOUVERNEMENT HAUTE SILESE: Upper Silesia.  
COMORES: Comoro Islands.  
COMPANHIA DE MOÇAMBIQUE: Mozambique Co.  
COMPANHIA DO NYASSA: Nyassa.  
COMUNICACIONES: Spain.  
CONFEDERATE STATES or CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA: United States — Confederate States.  
CONFEDERATIO HELVETICA: Switzerland.

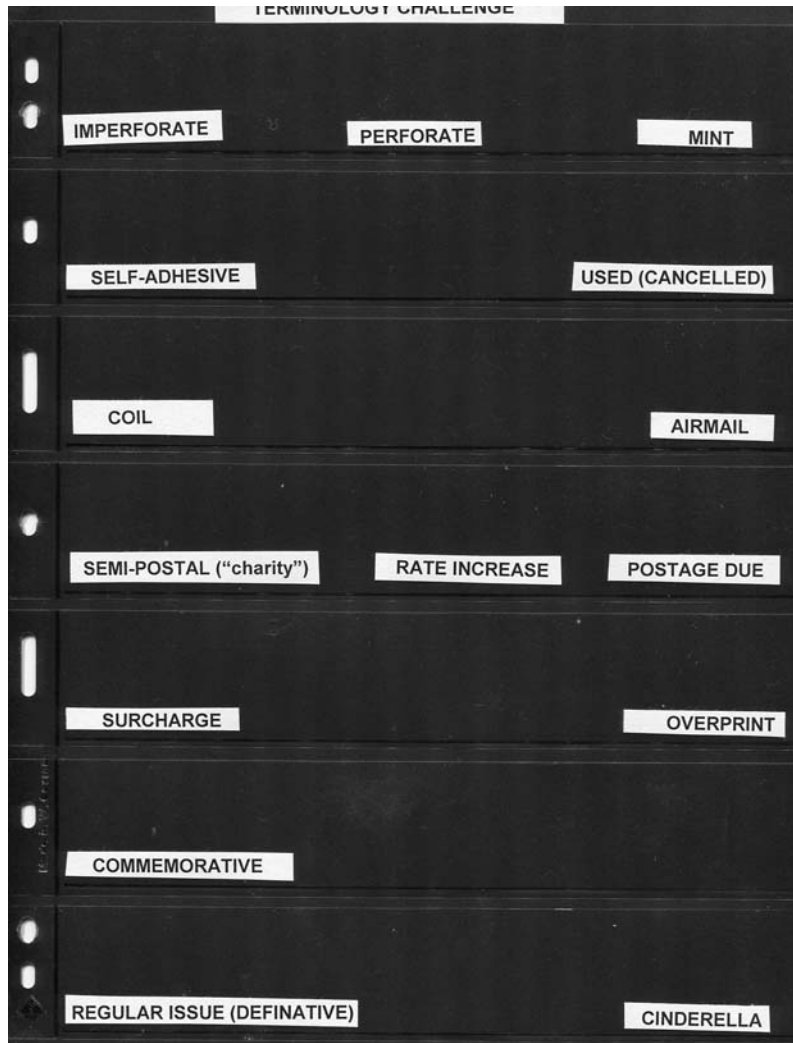
FRANÇAIS GABON: Gabon; with REPUBLIQUE DU: Congo or Middle Congo.  
CONGRESO DE LOS DIPUTADOS: Spain.  
CONSTANTINOPLE (overprint): Russia — Offices in Turkey — Constantinople.  
CONSTANTINOPOLI (overprint): Italy — Offices in Turkey — Constantinople.  
COO (overprint): Italy — Aegean Islands — Coe.  
COOK ISLANDS — NIUE: Niue.  
COREE, COREAN: Korea.  
CORONA (ovrpt.): Austria, under Italian occupation. Also Dalmatia.  
CORREIO: Portugal.  
CORREIOS, CORREIOS E TELEGRAPHOS: Portugal.  
CORREO AEREO (no country name): Spain.  
CORREO ESPAÑOL TANGER: Spanish Morocco — Tangier.  
CORREOS (no country name) denominations in CUARTOS, REALES, CS or CTOS: Spain; with word "REAL": Dominican Republic.  
CORREOS (no country name): Cuba, Peru, Philippines, Dominican Republic or Spain.  
CORREOS DE COLOMBIA: Colombia.  
CORREOS NACIONALES: Colombia.  
CORREOS OAXACA: Mexico — Oaxaca.  
CORREOS Y TELEGS: Spain.  
CORREO URBANO DE BOGOTA: Colombia — Bogota.  
CORRESPONDENCIA URGENTE: Spain.  
COS (overprint): Italy — Aegean Islands — Coe.  
COSTA ATLANTICA B.: Nicaragua — Province of Zelaya.  
COSTA ATLANTICA C.: Nicaragua — Cabo Gracias a Dios.  
CÔTE DE SOMALIS or CÔTE FRANCAIS DES SOMALIS: Somali Coast.  
CÔTE D'IVOIRE: Ivory Coast.  
CP&JA: Serbia.  
CROSSANT ROUGE TURC: Turkey.  
CRUZ ROJA HONDURENA: Honduras.  
CRUZ VERMELHA PORTUGUESA: Portugal.  
CRVENI KRST (overprint): Yugoslavia, Offices Abroad.  
C.S.A. POSTAGE: United States — Confederate States.  
CT. CTOT. CTOTNHN: Bulgaria.  
CUNDINAMARCA: Colombia — Cundinamarca.  
CURAÇAO: Netherlands Antilles.  
C.X.C.: Yugoslavia.

## D

D (dinar) on stamp with Arabic writing: Persia.  
D (pence), / (shilling) or £ (pound) preceded by a numeral, on stamp



# Stamp Terminology Challenge



To show your understanding of what we have been discussing, you will be provided with a group of stamps. Find one example of each characteristic and place the stamp in the pocket.

(There is more than enough material, and so not every stamp will be used.

Remember each stamp has multiple characteristics!)

# Requirement 4

# Catalogs & Condition



- Used to identify and value stamps by country.
- Each stamp is assigned a number.
- Stamps sell for amounts that can be very different than the catalog value.



# How to Read a Catalog

**Stamp name** → James Dean (1931-55)

**Date of Issue** → 1996, June 24

**Stamp number** → 3082 A2381 32c

**Mint value** → .60

**Used value** → .20


**LEGENDS OF HOLLYWOOD**  
 Designed by Michael Deas.  
 Printed by Stamp Venturers.

**PHOTOGRAVURE**  
 Sheets of 120 in six panes of 20.

**Tagged** **Perf. 11.1**

3082 A2381 32c multicolored	.60	.20
P# block of 4, 7#+S	2.75	—
Pane of 20	14.00	—
Sheet of 120 (six panes)	75.00	—
Cross gutter block of 8	25.00	—
Block of 8 with vertical gutter	17.50	—
Horiz. pair with vert. gutter	4.00	—
Vert. pair with horiz. gutter	2.50	—
<b>a.</b> Imperf., pair	350.00	—
Pane of 20, imperf.	4,750.	—
<b>b.</b> As "a," red (USA 32c) omitted	—	—
<b>c.</b> As "a," tan ("JAMES DEAN") omitted	—	—
<b>c.</b> As "a," red and tan omitted	—	—

Perforations in corner of each stamp are star-shaped. No. 3082 was also available on the first day of issue in at least 127 Warner Bros. Studio stores.  
 Cross-gutter block consists of 3 stamps vertically from 2 upper panes and 1 stamp each from 2 lower panes.  
 For booklet see No. BK250.



# Condition

Condition factors include:

- Image centering
- Color freshness
- Back of stamp (hinge damage).



Light Cancel-Very Fine



Medium Cancel-Fine



Heavy Cancel



Superb



Very Fine



Fine



Good

# eBay example US Scott 292

Mint-  
\$1,150



U.S. Stamp, Western Cattle in Storm, Scott 292, FVG, OG, LH (L1553)

Item condition: --

"Lightly hinged, exceptional color, a beauty. Please see picture of back of stamp."

Time left: 27d 05h 1/28, 6:30PM

Price: **US \$1,150.00**

**Buy It Now**

**Add to cart**

[Add to watch list](#)

[Add to collection](#)

**Free shipping**

30-day returns

100% positive feedback

Shipping: **FREE** Standard Shipping | [See details](#)

Item location: Oak Harbor, Washington, United States

Ships to: United States

Delivery: Estimated between **Mon. Jan. 5** and **Fri. Jan. 9**

Payments: **PayPal**

Credit Cards processed by PayPal

**PayPal CREDIT**

12 month financing available [Apply Now](#) | [See Terms](#)

Used-F-VF Cat \$725



Item condition: --

Time left: 26d 09h 1/27, 11:30PM

Price: **US \$409.99**

1 watching

100% posit

Shipping: **\$2.32** Standard Shipping | [See details](#)

Item location: Las Vegas, Nevada, United States

Ships to: Worldwide [See exclusion](#)

Delivery: Estimated on or before **Thu**

Payments: **PayPal**

Credit Cards processed by PayPal

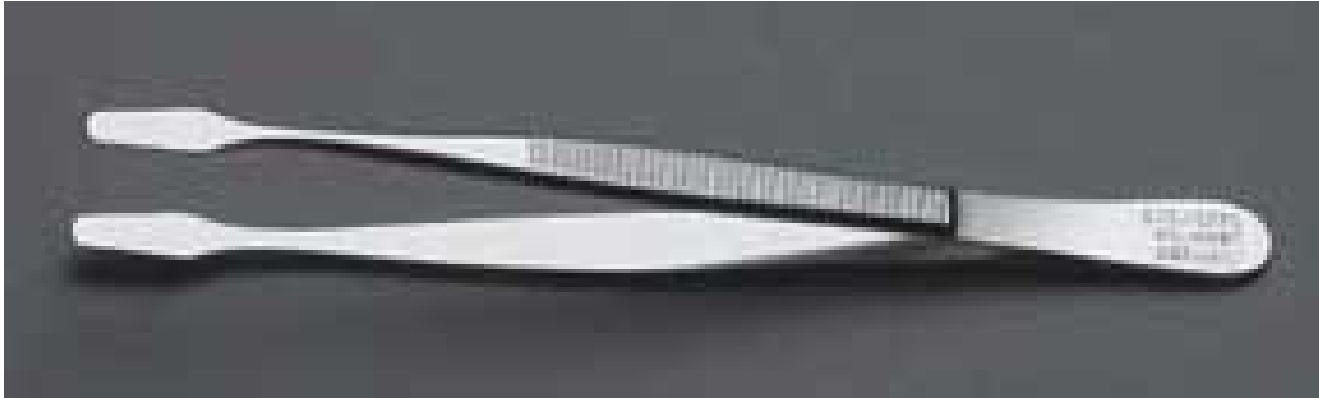
Used- \$299.





# Requirement 5

# Tongs



# Soaking

- You can soak older water activated stamps off paper easily. Do only a few at a time. Press between newspaper for a few days to dry.
- Modern self-adhesive stamps are more of a challenge.





# Magnifiers



# Using a Perforation Gauge



Perf. 10			
2723 A2070	25c	multicolored, June 9	.50
		P# block of 4, 5#S	2.50
		Zip block of 4	2.25
a.	Perf. 11.2x11.4		20.00
		P# block of 4, 5#S	125.00

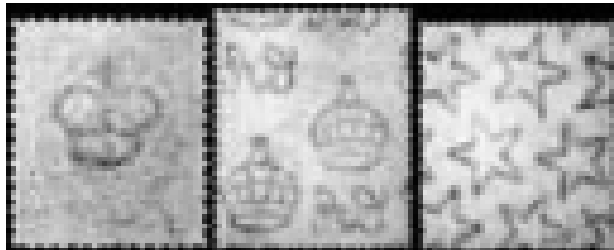
## Stamp Investment Tip: U.S. 1979 15c John Paul Jones, Perf 12 variety (Scott #1789B)



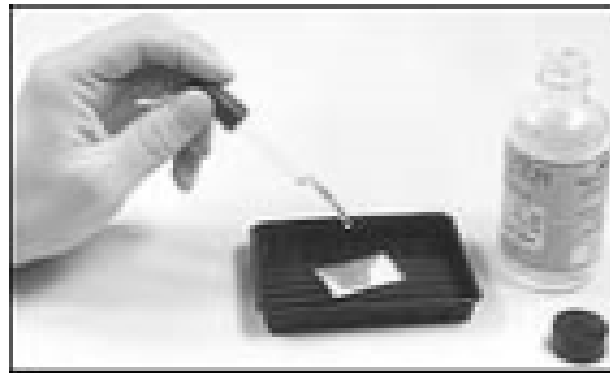
There are times when album or catalog publishers can significantly influence the stamp market, by virtue of a "tail wagging the dog" effect. Such is the case with a stamp which might have been considered a boring perforation variety, had they not stepped in and given the story a new spin.

In 1979, the U.S. issued a 15c stamp honoring John Paul Jones, the naval hero of the American Revolution. Two common perforation types of this stamp exist, perf. 11x12 and perf. 11 (Scott #1789 and 1789A). However, there also exists a scarce perf. 12 variety of this stamp (Scott #1789B). Scott '12 prices #1789B at \$3,500.00, and fewer than 200 are believed to exist.

# Watermarks



**Figure 1. Watermark patterns can include pictorial elements, letters or numbers. Shown from left to right are watermarks on stamps of Denmark, Trinidad and Tobago, and Italy. Click on image to enlarge.**



**Figure 2. A few drops of watermark fluid applied to the back of the stamp will bring out the details of the watermark.**



**Figure 3. Although the £1 stamps identified as Great Britain Scott 312, 374 and 528 look alike, they are distinguished by different watermarks. The difference in value is substantial. [Click on image to enlarge.](#)**



# Requirement 6

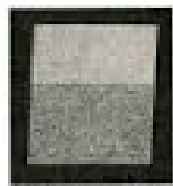
# Mounting and Preservation

- Use of hinges
- Use of mounts
- Type of album
- Storage of album

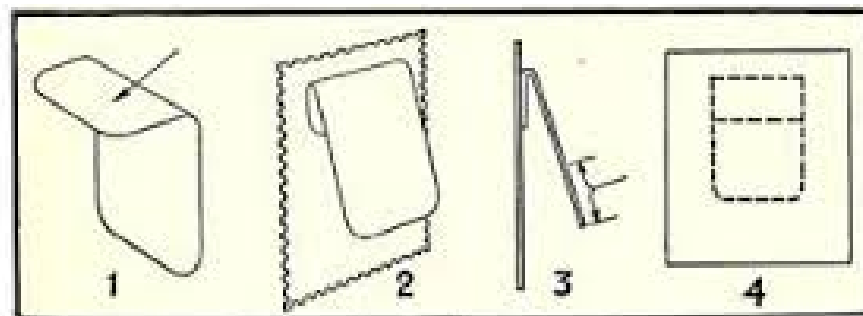


These are examples of stamps ruined by using scotch tape.

# Hinges



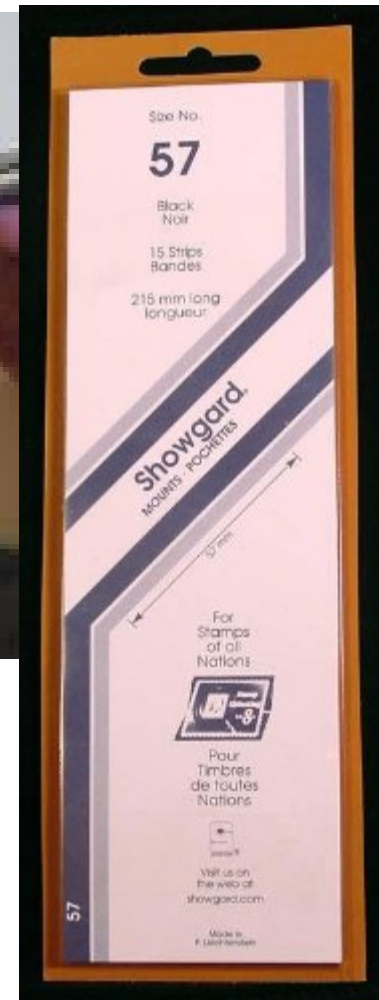
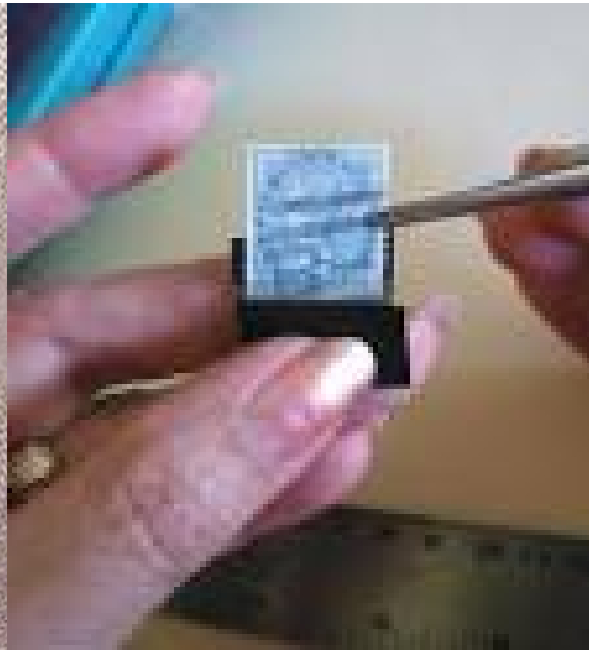
Stamp hinge



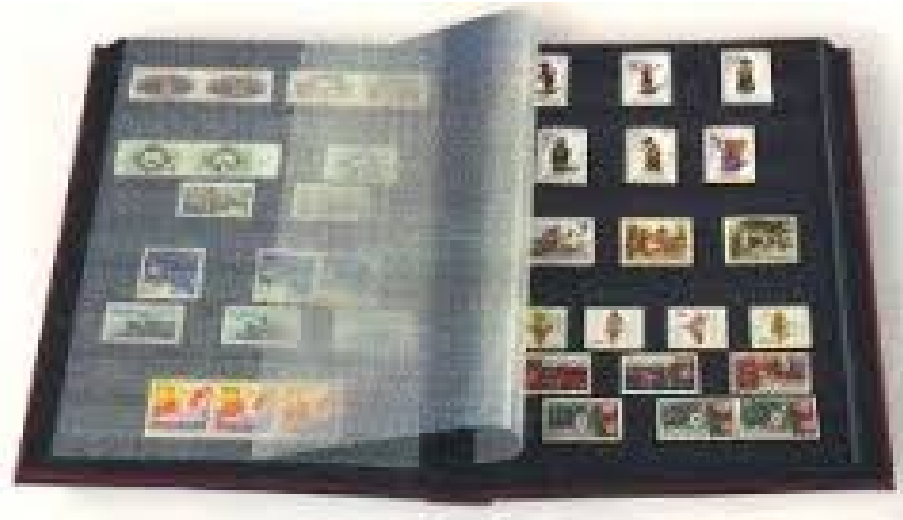
Four steps in mounting postage stamps



# Mounts



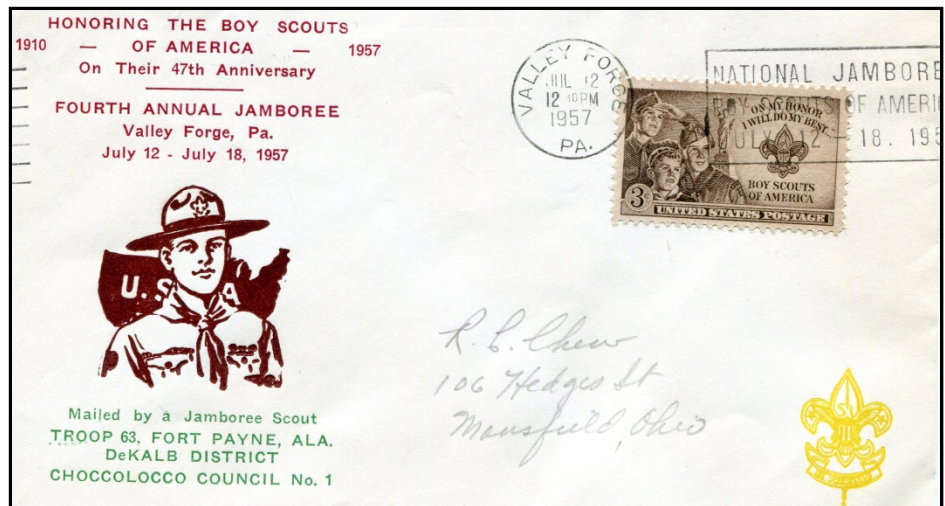
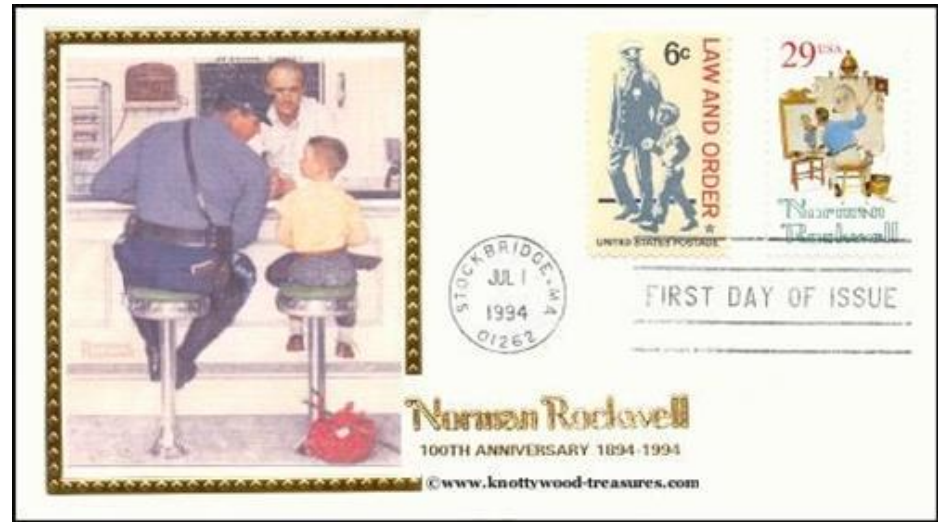
# Stock Books & Glassine Envelopes



# Requirement 7



# Design a Stamp or Cachet



# Design

## Your Own Stamp

Postage stamps are receipts — proof of pre-paying a fee for delivery of letters and packages. Stamps usually honor important people, places, events, and animals, but with today's picture postage stamps, you can create your own stamp design about your favorite topic — anything that's important to you!

Your design should include:

- the name of the country issuing the stamp
- a monetary number (denomination) what it costs to send a letter or package
- topic — person, place, event, issue, or object that's important to you!

*Want to make a formal suggestion  
to the U.S. Postal Service?*

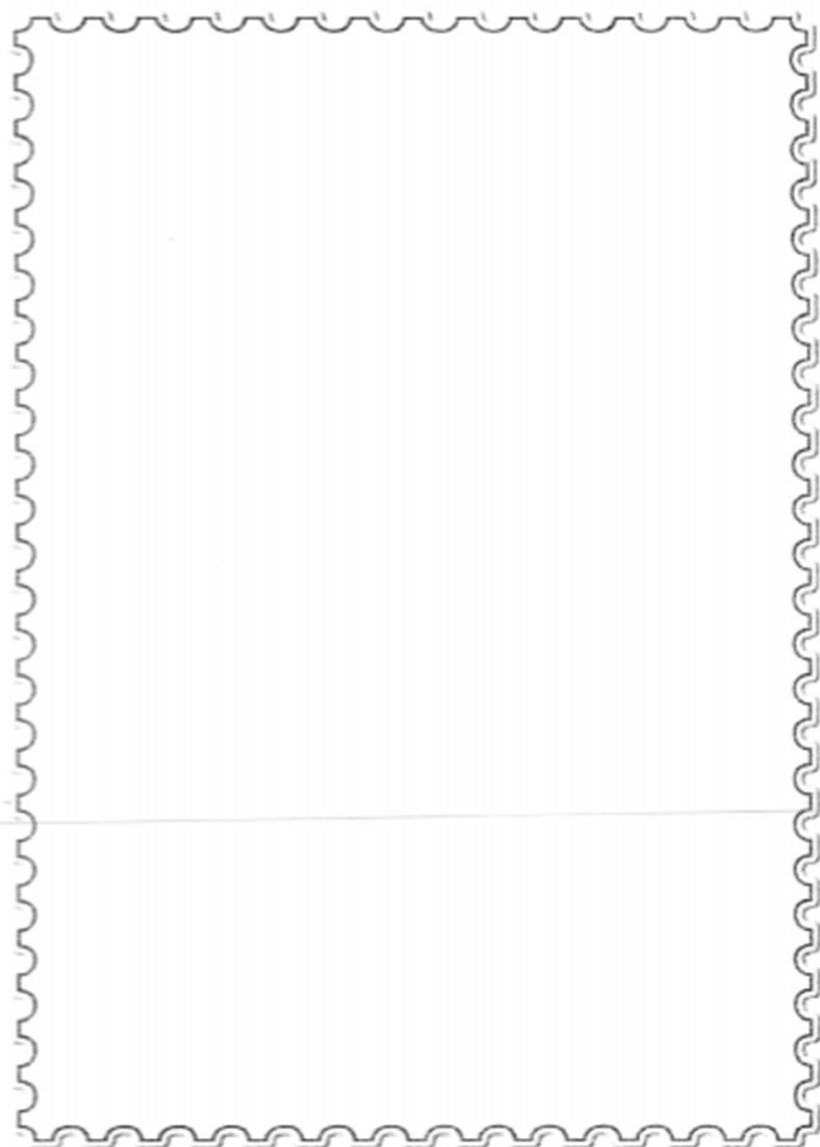
Check out the guidelines at:

<http://www.usps.com/communications/organization/esac.htm>.

Then mail your suggestions to:

Stamp Development: US Postal Service

1735 North Lynn St., Rm 5013, Arlington VA 22209-6432



# Visit a Stamp Show

Using the program from the Show, visit at least three areas (dealers, postal representatives, the youth area, or an exhibitor or judge). Ask the person there to help explain to you something about the show, something about a particular type of material that dealer is offering for sale, or some other area of the stamp collecting hobby that is of particular interest to you. Ask the person you visited with to sign the show program. Be prepared to explain to your counselor what you learned.



# Do a research report/presentation

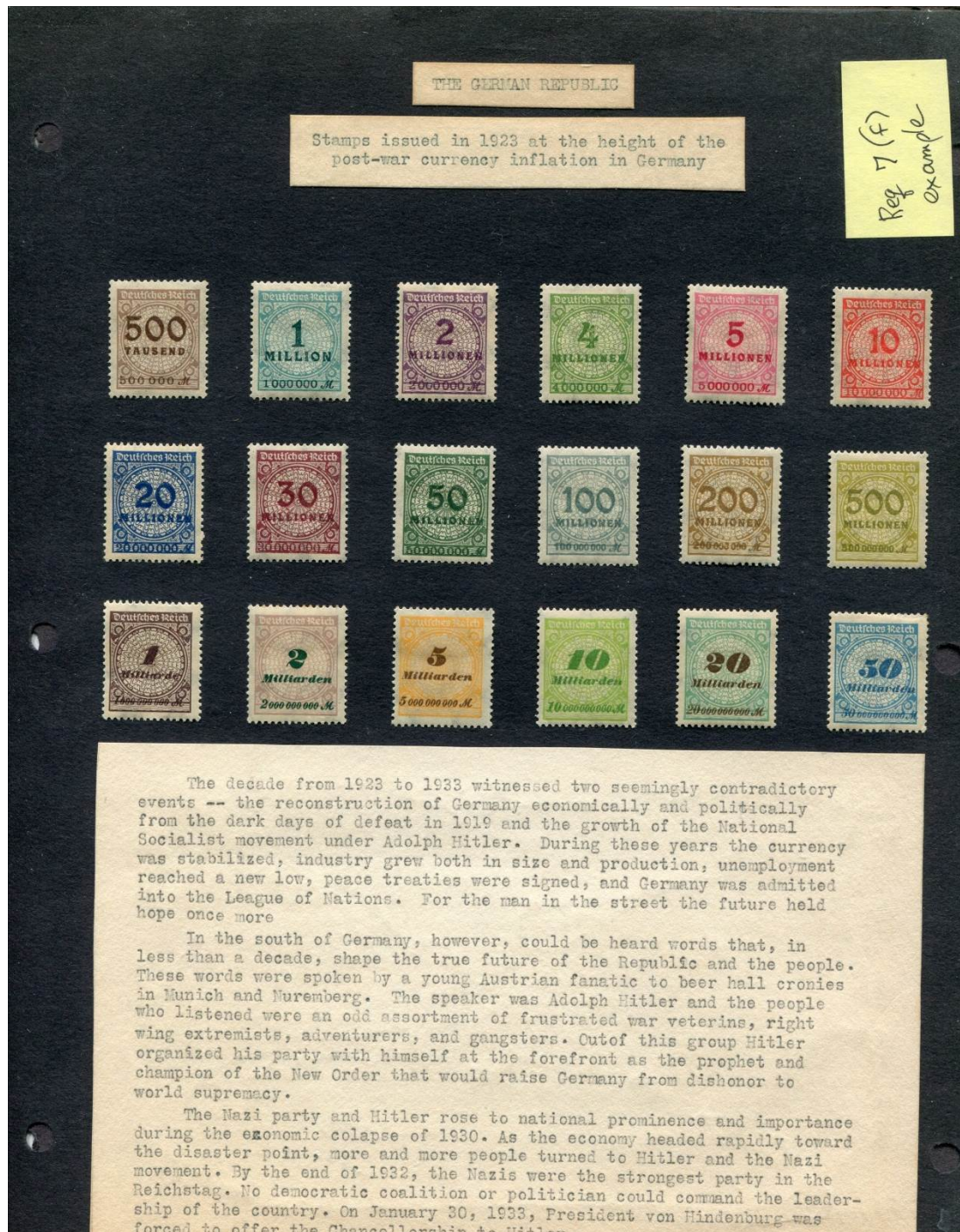


# Requirement 8

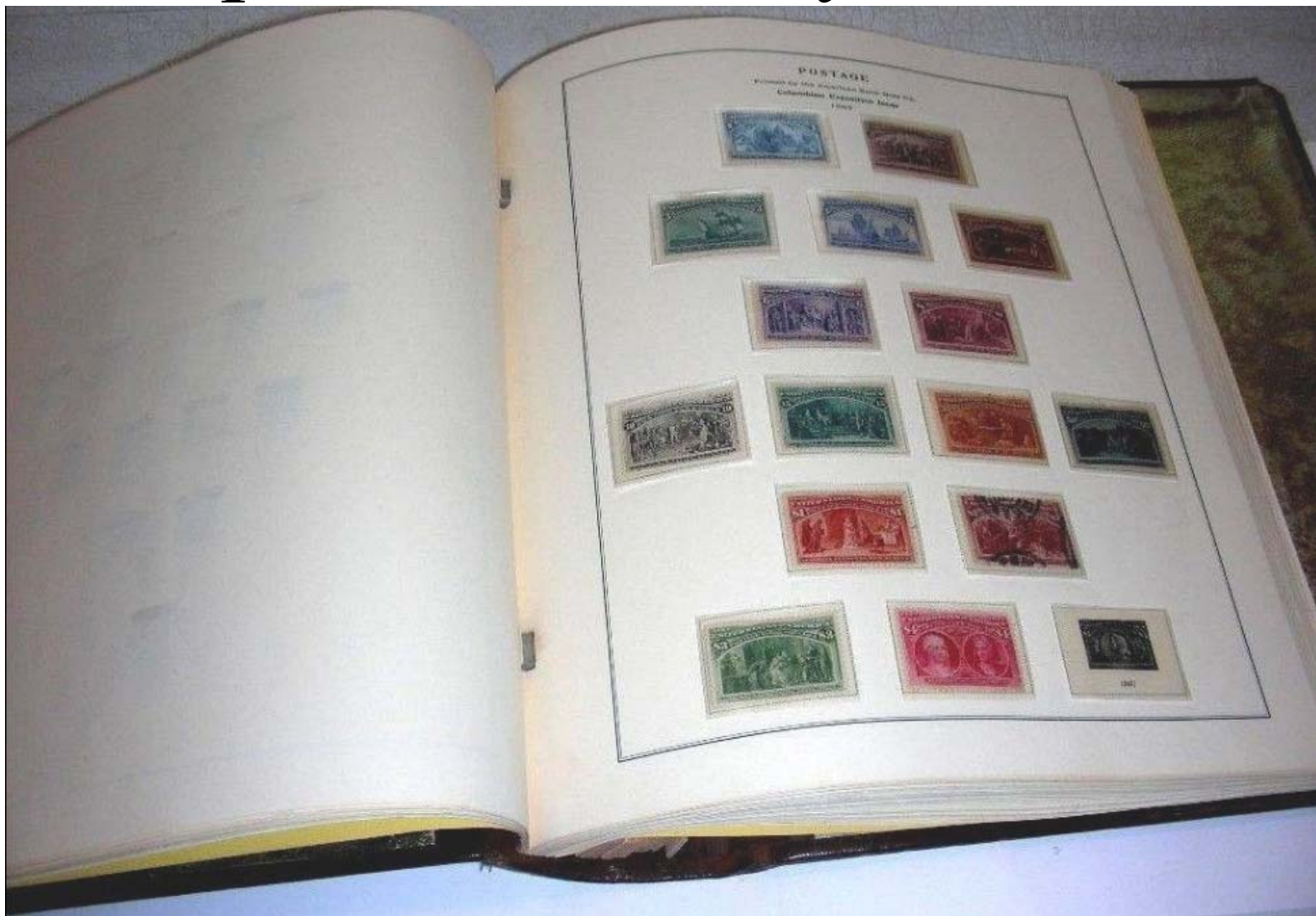
# Example of a Topical Collection





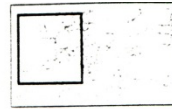


# Another Example of a Topical Collection

[illegible]



## Western Europe



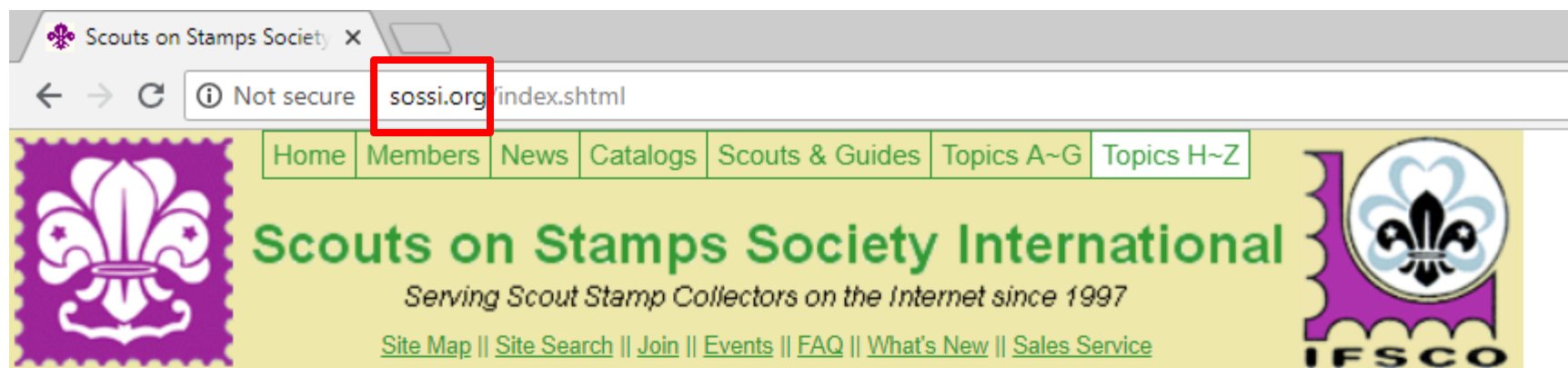
# Example of a Map Collection





# Where do I go from here?

- Decide on a more permanent collection and album.
- Ways to get more stamps:
  - Soak off from incoming mail (ask friends to save for you)
  - Trade duplicates
  - Buy on approval or from dealers
  - Join a local stamp club
- Become a junior member of the Scouts on Stamps Society and/or APS.



## Welcome.

**Scouts on Stamps Society International (SOSSI)** is a nonprofit philatelic organization specializing in the collecting, study, and enjoyment of stamps and other postal items celebrating the Boy Scout and Girl Scout (Guide) movements. [Join Us!](#)

## What do you suppose this Scout is thinking?



Just for fun enter the  
**Linn's Stamp**  
NEWS  
Cartoon Contest

by John M. Hotchner  
Linn's Contributing Editor

# Optional Material



# Postal Oddities



### **War Started By A Stamp Issue**

In 1900 the Dominican Republic issued a set of stamps showing its boundary extending into the territory of its neighbor, Haiti. This started intermittent border conflicts between the two republics until 1938 when the dispute was finally settled. It is estimated that over 15,000 were slain because of this controversy.



### **Stamps Were Responsible for the Panama Canal Location**

Before the Panama route was selected for a proposed canal to join the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans there was a faction in Washington favoring the route through Nicaragua. However an advocate of Panama distributed among the senators a Nicaraguan 1902 stamp showing that country's volcano of Mt. Momotombo and brought out that this volcano was in constant eruption and therefore a menace to the proposed waterway. This settled the issue in favor of Panama.



A joint USA – USSR space issue during the Cold War!





# Stamps come in all shapes, sizes and materials!



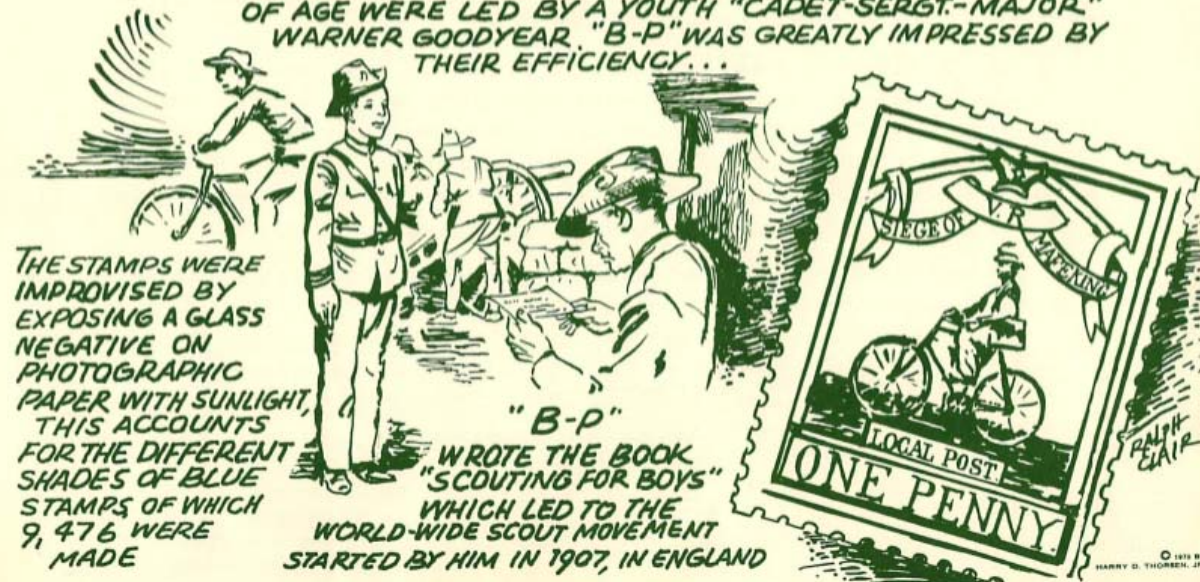
• 29 JUNE 2009



## BADEN-POWELL'S "FIRST" BOY SCOUT...

... WAS PICTURED ON A POSTAGE STAMP DURING THE SIEGE  
OF MAFEKING, SOUTH AFRICA.

FORMED INTO A CADET CORPS, ALL BOYS FROM NINE YEARS  
OF AGE WERE LED BY A YOUTH "CADET-SERGT.-MAJOR."  
WARNER GOODYEAR. "B-P" WAS GREATLY IMPRESSED BY  
THEIR EFFICIENCY...



Only 9,476 of these stamps were produced.  
Shows Cadet Sargent Major Warner Goodyear,  
arguably the first "Boy Scout."



# Optional Videos Available To Watch:



Stamps – An American Journey (13 minutes)



FDR – Stamp Collector In Chief (3 minutes)



The Inverted Jenny (11 minutes)